

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed July 20, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Continued Examination*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 28, 2003; December 3, 2004; October 17, 2005; December 9, 2005; April 24, 2006; and October 31, 2006. A further Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5, 8, 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 36-43, 45, 47-57 and 74-81 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. The Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of the allowability of claims 4 and 81 and the allowance of claims 36-43, 45 and 47-57 (page 6, Paper No. 20070714).

The Official Action rejects claims 3, 5, 8, 13, 28, 33, 74, 76, 77, 79 and 80 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0056839 to Joo and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0049163 to Yamazaki. The Official Action rejects claims 18, 23, 75 and 78 as obvious based the combination of Joo, Yamazaki and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0000551 to Yamazaki.

In response and in accordance with the statement of allowed subject matter (Id.), independent claims 3 and 74 have been amended to include the allowable features of dependent claims 4 and 81, respectively. Therefore, independent claims 3 and 74, as amended, recite allowable subject matter, and the above-referenced rejections are believed to be moot.


New claims 82-87 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. The features of claims 82-87 are supported in the present

specification, for example, by page 9, line 3, to page 14, line 18. Independent claim 82 recites "heating an entire surface of a substrate by radiation heating from a first heat source" and "forming a semiconductor layer over a substrate," then "selectively heating the semiconductor layer by using a second heat source capable of radiating an electromagnetic wave within a wavelength band ranging at least from a visible light band to an infrared band." The Applicant respectfully submits that these features are similar to the features noted in the statement of "Allowable Subject Matter" at page 6, lines 16-19 of the Office Action (regarding claims 36-43, 45 and 47-57). The Applicant respectfully submits that Joo, Yamazaki '163 and Yamazaki '551, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features of the present invention. For the reasons stated above and already of record, the Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 82-87 are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, claims 3, 5, 8, 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 36-43, 45, 47-57, 74-80 and 82-87 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 3, 36, 37, 74 and 82 are independent, and all of which are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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